(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) 246.

(*d*) Yes. By the Chief Medical Officer on 13th Kumbham 1116.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) Yes. In 1115 and 1116, but further details cannot be furnished, as the period has not been specified.

FREE MEDICAL AID TO STUDENTS

325. Mr. M. Nanu Menon *(Ernakulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether students are charged for treatment in State Hospitals according to the new rules;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to reconsider the position in view of the fact that free medical examination and advice are the privilege of students here as well as elsewhere;

(*c*) will Government be pleased to grant free treatment for students in the State Hospitals?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) Well-to-do students are charged.

(*b*) A separate medical inspection staff for schools is already in existence to conduct medical examination and give advice free of charge.

(*c*) Free treatment will be given to "poor" students.

ELECTION TO THE NEW ROAD BOARD

Mr. President: I have to announce that Messrs. T. K. Nayar, B. M. Peter and T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar have been elected to the new Road Board.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

The Cochin Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move that the Cochin Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Act (Amendment) Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Advocate-General, Mr. P. Govinda Menon, Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar, Mr. C. V. Iyyu, Mr. C. J. Luiz, Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon and the mover.

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I second it.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, I think this is a matter which ought not to be referred to a Select Committee. The law is simple and the urgency of the legislation is very clear both from the speeches of the Hon'ble Minister and the Government Secretary. Since there is nothing complicated in this as in the case of many other Bills which are introduced and passed, there is absolutely no reason for wasting public money in having a committee and wasting the time also. The point for consideration is this. Before any Bill is referred to a Select Committee, the House must be convinced that the provisions are either complicated or require radical changes. The speech of the Hon'ble Minister has made it very definite and clear that there is necessity for such a Bill. Then the question to be considered is as to whether there is necessity for the provisions to be modified by a Committee. My submission is that the general scheme of the Bill brought before the House is absolutely simple. What is wanted is that the Government should be invested with sufficient powers to see that societies registered under Act II of 1088 should be under the control of the Government in such a way that no society will dare to flout the legitimate desires of responsible officers of Government. The Hon'ble Minister has been very kind enough to explain that the real necessity for this Bill arose out of the continued disobedience of the Ayurveda Samajam at Cheruthuruthy, and I think that is the only instance brought before the House. It has been submitted also that negotiations have been carried on between the Society and the Minister to see that there may be some amicable settlement and that these negotiations have been going on for nearly two years. Now, supposing the Select Committee that is proposed to be constituted takes up an attitude of indifference, we cannot expect the Bill to come up before the House before the next Vrischigam session. The hands of the Government are absolutely tied till that date, and there will be a serious state of affairs in the State whereby the hands of the Government will be tied on occasions when they are bound to act. Therefore, Sir, the reference to a Select Committee cannot be justified on any ground whatsoever unless it be that the Bill requires drastic changes. To consider these 17 sections which have been very well and clearly put investing the Government with immense reserve powers—which I am positively sure this Government will be resorting to only in fit and proper cases—the reference to a Select Committee seems to be an absolute luxury. The money that will be wasted on account of the Committee can well be utilised for much more profitable

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business and the time of the hon'ble members who would be members of this Committee can best be utilised for more valuable business. For a well-drafted Bill, whose principles have been accepted by the House and which were very beautifully advocated by the Hon'ble Secretary to Government, I think, for such a measure, the reference to a Select Committee seems to be an absolute luxury. I, therefore, oppose the reference of this Bill to a Select Committee. I request the Government to see whether they cannot find it possible to pass the Bill as it is, without any modifications whatsoever.

Mr. President: I do not think we need have a discussion on this point.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* I have to suggest another name also to the Select Committee.

Mr. President: There are already seven members suggested, and I am afraid it is not wise to change the scheme of selection. Members from all parties have been included in the committee.

With regard to the points raised by Mr. Bhaskara Menon, if Government are allowed to take the measure into consideration at once, the President will have to suspend the Standing Orders and give permission. But in view of the general desire expressed in the House, I do not propose to suspend the Standing Order and permit Government to move the motion.

The motion that the Bill be referred to Select Committee put and carried

Mr. President: The Secretary to Government will be the Chairman of the committee and the committee will report within two months.

The Cochin Kuries Bill

***Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* Sir, I move that *in clause 14, sub-clause (2) between the words "deposit" and "with the Registrar" the words "in approved banks as may be prescribed or" may be added.*

ഇന്നലെ ഈ സഭയിൽ മറൊരു ഭേഗതിക്കുടി ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പി ച്ചിരുന്നതു് പിരിയുന്ന സംഖ്യ അപ്രൂവ്ഡ് സെക്യൂറിട്ടീസിൽ കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയെന്നാണു്. എന്നാൽ സഭ അതു് അംഗീകരിക്കുകയുണ്ടായില്ല. ആ സംഖ്യ ട്രഷറിയിൽ തന്നെ ഡിപ്പോസിറ്റ ചെയ്യണോ, അതല്ല, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും അംഗീകരിക്കുന്നതായ ഏതെങ്കിലും ബാങ്കുകളിൽ ഡിപ്പോസിറ്റ ചെയ്താൽ മതിയോ എന്നുള്ളതാണു് ഈ സഭയുടെ മുമ്പാകെ ആലോചന

*Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

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